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LONG ASHTON RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL



R E P O R T

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR

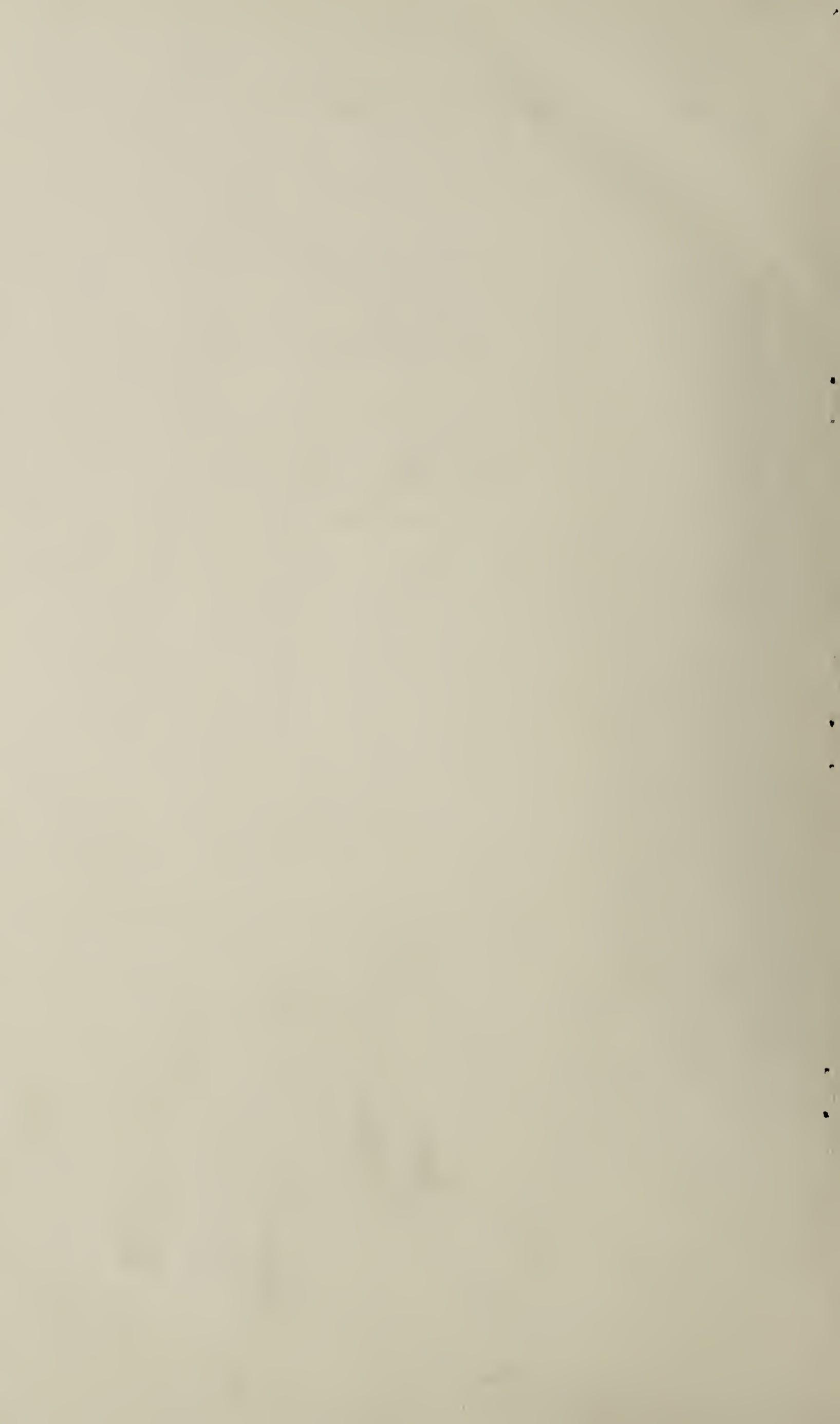
1957.



M. C. O'CONNOR,
M.B., B.S., D.P.H.

Medical Officer of Health.

Council Offices,
Flax Bourton,
Nr. Bristol.



LONG ASHTON RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

for the

YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31st, 1957.

Medical Officer of Health	M. C. O'Connor, M.B.,B.S.,D.P.H.
Surveyor and Chief Public Health Inspector	G. K. Foster, M.R.S.H.,A.I.W.E.
Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector	B. Barker.
Assistant Public Health Inspector	J. Wynne Jones.
Housing Manager	C. H. Carey.
Housing and Planning Assistant	S. Brierley, A.I.A.S.
Housing Inspector and Public Health Assistant	M. M. Anderson.

Committees concerned with matters of Public Health:-

Public Health and Housing Committee
 Planning Committee
 Road Safety Committee

- O - O - O - O -

To the Chairman and Members of the Long Ashton Rural District Council,

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit my Sixth Annual Report on the Health, Sanitary and Social conditions of the District for the Year 1957.

The information therein is, as far as possible, in conformity with the requirements of the Ministry of Health, with such added matter as is deemed necessary for record and your interest and information.

VITAL STATISTICS.

Area	45,434 acres.
Population, as assessed by the Registrar General for mid-1957.	24,130
Number of Permanent Dwellings	7,708 excluding Camps.
Rateable Value (November)	£262,878
Product of Penny rate (do)	£1090

VITAL STATISTICS.LIVE BIRTHS.

The number of live births registered during the year was 356, representing a live birth rate, based on the mid-year population of 24,130 for the District, and after adjustment by the 'comparability factor', of 16.52. The provisional figure for the country as a whole is 16.1.

DEATHS.

The number of deaths registered was 311, representing a death rate, after adjustment, of 11.2, compared with the country figure of 11.5.

LIVE BIRTHS.

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate	153	187	340
Illegitimate	7	9	16
Totals	160	196	356

Of these 99 are reported as born within the District, though 16 were born in the White House Nursing Home at Winford. There would appear to be an increasing proportion of babies born in hospitals or homes rather than in the home.

The higher proportion of girls is unusual.

STILLBIRTHS.

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
All legitimate	2	2	4

INFANT DEATHS.

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Under 1 week	1	6	7
1 to 4 weeks	-	-	-
1 to 12 months	-	4	4
Totals	1	10	11

In all the first week cases prematurity, with or without deformity form the cause of death.

In the older group, which is responsible for the high Infant Death Rate of 30.9 per 1000 live births, only one is due to deformity, while the others are due to pneumonia, and one, accidental asphyxia. Two of these children were from Caravans at Walton Bay.

None of the deaths occurred among the illegitimate.

DEATHS. All Ages.

The total number of Deaths during the year was 311, of which 150 were Male and 161 Female. However this number includes the following, many of whom will not be accredited to the District in future years:-

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Barrow Hospital	15	12	27
The Grange, Flax Bourton.	1	1	2
Belmont House	-	8	8
Cambridge House	1	-	1
Totals	17	21	38

Of the total 311 there were 72 'transferred' deaths, i.e. those occurring outside the District, mainly in Hospitals.

DEATHS.Causes. (Registrar General's Return).

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Tuberculosis, respiratory , other	4 1	2 -	6 1
Whooping Cough	-	1	1
Cancer, Stomach	6	3	9
Lung, Bronchus	8	2	10
Breast	-	6	6
Uterus	-	1	1
Other	11	15	26
Leukaemia	1	-	1
Vascular Lesions Nervous System	13	22	35
Coronary Disease Heart	37	22	59
Hypertension, with Heart disease	8	9	17
Other Heart Disease	19	35	54
Other circulatory Disease	6	7	13
Influenza	1	-	1
Pneumonia	5	6	11
Bronchitis	6	5	11
Other Respiratory Disease	1	-	1
Ulcer Stomach or Duodenum	3	-	3
Congenital Malformations	-	3	3
Other and Illdefined Diseases	10	12	22
Motor Accidents	5	2	7
All other Accidents	1	4	5
Suicide	4	4	8
Totals	150	161	311

Comment.

There are notable absentees from the list, Diphtheria, Measles, Gastro-enteritis and Pregnancy and Childbirth.

The Whooping Cough death was a 2 months child from a caravan, and the recorded Influenza was in a one-year-old boy. In my own assessment I found 3 other deaths in elderly people where Influenza seemed to be the final cause.

The Cancer figures, as a whole, show little increase, though there is a material increase in the number of Lung cases, (incidentally the same as in 1952). The ages of these was at 53, 56, 59, 63, 67, 70, 73 and 76 in the Males, and 67 and 88 in the females.

The second group of diseases, of the blood vessels or heart, constitute the largest. On my own evaluation of diagnoses the distribution in age groups is as follows:-

	<u>45-64</u>	<u>65-74</u>	<u>75 & over.</u>
Vascular Lesions C.N.S.(Strokes)	6	9	20
Coronary Disease Heart	14	25	20
'Blood Pressure' with heart	2x	6	9 (x one 43)
Other Heart disease	4x	5	45 (x one 43)
All diseases	66	83	139

Of the Coronary Deaths, 18 required Post mortem diagnosis.

DEATHS (Contd.).Accidents.

Of Motor accidents, 2 were pedestrians, 3 on motor cycles and two in one car.

Of the other accidents 3 were due to falls, only one in the home by an old lady of 83. One lady of 55 died of burns from her clothes being ignited and a child of 4 months in a caravan was found dead from accidental suffocation.

Suicides.

Two occurred in Barrow Hospital; three others by coalgas.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES.

The following numbers of cases of notifiable disease were reported during the year.

<u>Disease.</u>	<u>Total Notified.</u>	<u>Admitted to Hospital.</u>	<u>Deaths.</u>
Measles	360	-	-
Scarlet Fever	23	3	-
Puerperal Fever	2	-	-
Meningococcal Infection	3	3	-
Dysentery	5	-	-
Whooping Cough	132	3	1
Acute Primary Pneumonia	26	4	11
Influenzal Pneumonia	8	1	1
Acute Poliomyelitis	21	20	-
Erysipelas	3	-	-

Notes.

Measles. This is the typical biennial epidemic, mainly affecting children at school entering age.

Whooping Cough. It is 10 years since we had a death from this cause.

Poliomyelitis. This represents the largest number of cases in the records and consisted of four distinct outbreaks. There seemed to be a possibility that they were associated with sewage works. It is hoped that the Immunisation programme will be able to be pressed forward so that this disease may share the fate of Diphtheria.

A Report on the year's experience was made to the Council in March, 1958, and the list of cases is attached for record.

ACUTE POLIOMYELITIS 1957.

(continued).

Appendix I.

No.	Age.	Sex	NP/P	Date of Onset	Hospital Admission	Address	Hospital Discharge	Remarks
1.	11	M.	P.	11.6.	17.6.	Mariners Way PILL	23.7.57.	Type I.
2.	10/12	F.	NP.	12.6.	-	Ham Green	-	At onset residing Pill.
3.	6	M.	P.	14.6.	19.6.	Mariners Way PILL	2.8.57.	Type I.
4.	11	F.	NP.	17.6.	24.6.	Cross Lanes PILL	23.7.57.	Type I.
5.	35	F.	P.	22.6.	2.7.	Ham Green Hosp.		Mother of (2)
6.	22	F.	P.	1.7.	2.7.	Ham Green.	16.8.57.	Employed Hosp. Had 2nd dose Vaccine.
7.	28	F.	P.	?2.7.	8.7.	Ham Green	?	Developed APM in Hampstead.
8.	35	F.	P.	9.7.	15.7.	Batch, NAILSEA France 28.6. to Winford.	4.9.57.	Type I.
9.	4½	F.	P.	13.7.	19.7.	TICKENHAM Ilfracombe 29.6.-7.7.	27.9.57.	Type I.
10.	5.	M.	P.	18.7.	25.7.	Keedwell, LONG ASHTON.	3.9.57.	
11.	6	M.	P.	25.7.	26.7.	Keedwell, LONG ASHTON.	6.9.57.	Type I. Neighbour of (10).
12.	3	M.	P.	27.7.	30.7.	Glebe, LONG ASHTON.		Type I.
13.	7	M.	NP.	?8.8. Tonsillitis 29.7.	9.8.	Birdwell, LONG ASHTON.	13.9.57.	Type I.
14.	8	M.	P.	5.8.	7.8.	Back Lane, NAILSEA.	17.9.57.	
15.	8.	F.	NP.	12.8.	13.8.	Silver St., NAILSEA.	20.9.57.	Type I.
16.	3½	M.	P.	14.8.	16.8.	Kingshill, NAILSEA.	24.9.57.	Type I. Played (14).
17.	6	M.	P.	17.8.	18.8.	The Grove, NAILSEA.	1.10.57.	Type II.
18.	28	M.	P.	19.8.	20.8.	Kingshill, NAILSEA.	16.10.57.	Father of (16).
19.	7	M.	NP.	23.9.	24.9.	Horsecastle, YATTON.	29.10.57.	
20.	6	M.	P.	30.9.	2.10.	Horsecastle, YATTON.	13.1.58. to Winford.	

TUBERCULOSIS.

The following numbers of cases were notified during the year:-

	<u>Notified.</u>	<u>Deaths.</u>	
Pulmonary	10	6	(2 not on Register).
Non-pulmonary	2	1	(not on register)

Parish Distribution - as at end of year.

	M.	F.	Total.		M.	F.	Total
Abbots Leigh	-	2	2	Backwell	9	5	14
Barrow Gurney	2	1	3	Brockley	1	1	2
Clapton-in-Gordano	3	1	4	Cleeve	2	-	2
Dundry	5	2	7	Easton-in-Gordano	15	8	23
Flax Bourton	-	2	2	Long Ashton (x)	10	10	20
Nailsea	5	4	9	North Weston	3	1	4
Portbury	-	1	1	Tickenham	-	3	3
Winford	2	3	5	Wraxall	3	3	6
Weston-in-Gordano	-	3	3	Walton-in-Gordano	-	1	1
Yatton (x)	10	9	19	Total	70	60	130

(x) include 4 in Cambridge House and 6 in Yatton Hall.

It is a little astonishing to realise that one in every 186 persons in the district is on the Tuberculosis Register, though, of course, many of these are not active but kept under observation for various reasons.

Deaths.

There were seven deaths recorded during the year, three of which occurred in persons not on the Tuberculosis Register. The Age Group distribution is as follows:-

<u>Age.</u>	<u>43</u>	<u>45 - 64</u>	<u>65 - 74</u>	<u>75 and over</u>	<u>Total</u>			
	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	
Pulmonary	1	3	1	1	-	-	-	4 2
Non-pulmonary	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1 -

Mass Radiography.

The South Western Regional Hospital Board's unit visited Yatton in February, 1957, and Pill in January, 1958.

347 visited the former and 405 at Pill. No case of active or inactive Tuberculosis was found.

IMMUNISATION.

Diphtheria. The following figures are supplied by the County Medical Officer of Health for the past year. The work is carried out by General Medical Practitioners or at School or Infant Welfare Clinics.

Number of Children who completed a full course of PRIMARY Injections:-

<u>Age</u>	<u>Under 1</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>5-9</u>	<u>Total</u>
	194	79	8	4	22	307

Number of Children who received REINFORCING Injections:-

<u>Age</u>	<u>5 - 9</u>	<u>10 - 14</u>	<u>Total.</u>
	243	-	243

IMMUNISATION. (Continued).

Smallpox. The following numbers of vaccinations have been reported during the year. (P = Primary; R - Re-vaccination).

Age.	Under 1	1	2-4	5-14	15 or over	Totals.
(P)	127	10	17	13	10	177
(R)	-	-	-	16	20	36
Totals	127	10	17	29	30	213

Poliomyelitis. With limited supplies, the following are the numbers of children who were vaccinated during the year.

Born in:-	1947	1948-1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	Total.
	5	14	9	9	2	6	6	6	62

Since immunisation would seem to be the best hope of preventing epidemics, it is hoped that larger quantities of vaccine will become available and that the public maintains its demand for it.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES.

The County Medical Officer of Health and his Staff are responsible for the active operation of the Health Services under the National Health Service Acts, 1946 - 52.

These include:-

Venereal Disease	Tuberculosis
Maternity & Child Welfare	Home Nursing & Health Visiting
Home Helps	Mental Health
Welfare Foods	Public Health Laboratories
School Medical Service	Immunisation
Ambulance Service	

Infectious Diseases are admitted to Ham Green Hospital.

Tuberculosis Clinics are held at Ham Green Hospital, Clevedon, and at the Central Health Clinic in Bristol. Admission to Hospital is now almost immediate after diagnosis.

Old People's Clubs are active in Backwell, Long Ashton, Nailsea and Redcliffe Bay and are jointly financially assisted by this Council and the County to cover premises expenses.

British Red Cross Society - Medical Loan Depot.

The Long Ashton Group of the B.R.C.S. has been formed under the guidance of Mrs. John Partridge, M.B.E., and a Medical Loan Depot was opened on July 1st. The work of loaning equipment to those who are ill seems to have met a need and has expanded rapidly. 95 items were issued up to March, 1958.

The Group now has 26 members, having started with 11. The Medical Loan work covers the districts of Long Ashton, Flax Bourton, Abbots Leigh, Backwell and West Town, Barrow Gurney, Dundry, Felton and parts of Nailsea and Failand.

In addition a small Welfare Section is run to give companionship by visiting the old, lonely and sick. The Barrow Gurney Group run the Library Service at Barrow Hospital under Mrs. Pryer of Claverham. A Book Drive was run in Long Ashton by the L.A. Group in March, 1958.

The Long Ashton Depot is open every Wednesday morning from 10.45 to 12 noon.

I am indebted to Mrs. O. Oscroft of Long Ashton, who is the Group Leader, for a note of these activities.

WATER SUPPLY.

The Bristol Waterworks Company's supply is almost general throughout the District and is always satisfactory. Well supply is rarely unpolluted either due to poor protection from surface water seepage or from the manuring and cultivation of surrounding fields.

There were only isolated cases of actual water shortage, and this Council was not called upon to take any action.

The water supply to one of the Hospitals has given some cause for anxiety and much investigation.

There are only a few outlying parts of the District still to have piped water supply and the question of obtaining guarantees is the matter of much heartache and discussion.

Water Supply from Mains.

(a)	DIRECT TO HOUSES			BY MEANS OF STANDPIPES.		
	Public.	Water	Private.	Public.	Water	Private.
	Company.		Company.		Company.	

Number of Dwelling Houses	36	7419	17	1	108	-
Population (Estimated)	200	23560	65	3	303	-

- (b) All 21 Parishes have piped water supply, though parts may be not yet connected, from public mains.
- (c) No parish is without a piped supply and cannot be supplied at reasonable cost, though outlying parts call for heavy guarantees.
- (d) Number of cases in which piped supply was substituted for:-
 - (i) well water...65; (ii) private source...44; other....15.

Water Supply from Wells.

Number of wells closed.....	6
Number of houses relying on well supply.....	151

Extension or Improvements of Supplies during year.

<u>Parish.</u>		<u>Cost.</u>
Winford	Extension of Bristol Waterworks Company's mains to Ridgehill, under guarantee.	£9,589
Walton-in-Gordano.	Extension of Bristol Waterworks Company's mains to Walton Bay and Walton Down.	£4,000
Wraxall.	Provision of piped supply to Lower Failand by joint arrangement with Failand House Estate. Council's contribution ...	£525. £200.

Future Proposals:-

<u>Parish.</u>		<u>Approximate Cost.</u>
Wraxall.	Extension of Bristol Waterworks Company's mains to West Hill area, under guarantee.	£4,368.
Winford.	Extension of Bristol Waterworks Company's mains to Strode and Plaisters Green, under guarantee.	£5,340.

PARTICULARS of the number of houses and estimated population supplied by Water Mains are laid out in the attached Table. Population figures can only be estimated.

WATER SUPPLIES (continued).

Particulars of the number of Dwelling Houses and estimated population supplied by Water Mains:-

<u>Parish.</u>	<u>Area in Acres.</u>	<u>Approx. Populatian 31.12.57.</u>	<u>Number of Houses.</u>	<u>Number of Houses Supplied direct from Mains.</u>	<u>Number of Houses Supplied from Standpipes.</u>	<u>Estimated Population Supplied Direct.</u>	<u>Estimated Population supplied from Standpipes.</u>
Abbots Leigh	2260	745	216	207	-	680	-
Backwell	2929	2520	819	801	1	2450	3
Barrow Gurney	2064	350	101	92	6	320	15
Brockley	1148	235	78	72	3	225	8
Clapton-in-Gordano	1355	250	81	63	-	210	-
Cleeve	1013	570	183	173	4	530	10
Dundry	2598	790	254	191	1	650	3
Easton-in-Gordano	1864	3200	1096	1088	6	3170	15
Flax Bourton	630	300	9 ¹ / ₂	81	3	285	10
Kenn	830	220	67	59	4	195	12
Kingston Seymour	2652	210	66	55	-	175	-
Long Ashton	4018	3450	966	959	5	3430	10
Nailsea	2866	2800	903	879	6	2730	15
North Weston	1063	1680	577	544	12	1,115	40
Portbury	2845	390	125	104	4	310	10
Tickenham	1629	810	260	245	2	780	5
Walton-in-Gordano	908	245	97	62	-	200	-
Weston-in-Gordano	708	200	62	46	11	150	30
Winford	3340	1100	326	253	34	900	105
Wraxall	4125	1900	598	551	6	1800	15
Yatton	4589	3000	951	947	-	2990	-
Totals	45434	24965	7920	7472	108	23795	306

SEWAGE DISPOSAL.

Of the 21 Parishes in the District, the following are supplied with main drainage and efficient disposal systems:-

Backwell.	excluding Church Lane, Church Town, Backwell Common and Downside.
Cleeve.	excluding Plunder Street and eastern portion.
Long Ashton.	including Cambridge House, the Police Headquarters and houses; but excluding Leigh Woods.
North Weston.	excluding the densely populated Redcliffe Bay area.
Easton-in-Gordano.	Pill and Ham Green only, excluding the western village area.
Yatton.	excluding Lower Claverham.
Flax Bourton.	only part near Council House Estate.

Works for the Council House Estates are established in:-

Dundry.	
Easton-in-Gordano	in Camp Sites, now dismantled.
Lulsgate.	
Nailsea.	
Tickenham.	
Wraxall.	for Council House Estate and Tyntesfield Park (separate Works).
Flax Bourton.	
Kenn.	for 4 older and two new houses.

Winford Hospital has its own Sewage Disposal Works.

EXTENSIONS made during the year.

Completed.

NAILSEA Stage 1 - Southfield Road Housing Estate, and Cider Works which is not yet connected awaiting the treatment works for their Trade Effluent. Sewage Disposal Works. Part of extension of sewerage to major part of village.

In Progress at end of year.

LONG ASHTON Enlargement and improvement of the Long Ashton trunk sewer between village and Bristol City boundary
At a Cost of £7,423.

NAILSEA Stage 2 - The Kingshill portion of Nailsea scheme
At a Cost of £23,898

FUTURE PROPOSALS.

A 'priority' list of proposed works follows. They will call for heavy expenditure, and cannot be considered as final. Modern standards and new housing are making the cesspit unhealthy, uneconomic and potentially dangerous. The system was not designed for piped water supply, with its free use and baths.

SEWAGE DISPOSAL.
FUTURE PROPOSALS (PRIORITY GROUP 1).

<u>PARISH.</u>	<u>SCHEME.</u>	<u>APPROXIMATE COST.</u>
Nailsea	Sewerage and sewage disposal to major portion of parish. Stage 1 completed and Stage 2 in progress.	£122,533
Flax Bourton	The remaining portion of the sewerage and sewage disposal scheme to the village. Tenders authorised by Ministry.	£12,800
Winford	Sewerage and sewage disposal to Winford and Felton. Joint scheme with Clutton R.D.C. with the disposal works sited at Chew Magna. Possibility of part of the cost (approx. £38,800) being borne by the Water Company under a 1939 Agreement.	£95,000
Portbury and Easton-in-Gordano.	Sewerage and sewage disposal for Portbury village and the Easton-in-Gordano portion of Easton-in-Gordano parish. Scheme approved by Ministry and tenders authorised.	£34,200
Clapton-in-Gordano.	Sewerage and sewage disposal to village. Tenders authorised by Ministry subject to satisfactory agreement with owners of certain farm premises as to quality etc. of farm effluent to be drained to sewer.	£9,000
Backwell.	Extension of sewer to nineteen properties at Church Lane, Farleigh. Scheme accepted by Council but deferred for time being.	£1,850
Dundry and Long Ashton.	Sewerage and sewage disposal to Dundry Lane and Bridgwater Road areas. Scheme not yet submitted to Ministry. Negotiations for disposal works site in progress.	£8,500
North Weston.	Sewerage and sewage disposal to Redcliffe Bay area by possible joint scheme with Portishead U.D.C.	Not yet available.
Backwell.	Enlargement and improvement of Backwell sewage disposal works to cope with increased development and possible future development.	Not yet available.

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

The following are the estimated numbers on 31st December, 1957.

(1) W.C.s	10200	(2) Chemical Closets	500
(3) Pail Closets	750	(4) Other	12

Number of conversions to water carriage system during year:- 50.

PUBLIC CLEANSING.

House Refuse is removed by direct labour, using three vehicles:-

One 10 cubic-yard Ford Vehicle, and
Two 18 cubic-yard S. & D. Vehicles.

Collections are made in 10 parishes weekly, and fortnightly in the remainder. This uses the vehicles and working hours to the full.

Trade Refuse was catered for at the following charges, but the service is little used as much trade refuse is collected as salvage.

Disposal. This is done by Controlled Tipping. The new Tip at Wraxall Piece has been most efficiently managed by the periodic use of a heavy bulldozer and reflects great credit on all concerned.

The Tip at Barrow Gurney has been covered with soil and handed over to the owners. A small tip in Nailsea was used and here the contour of the farm land has been restored for productive use.

SALVAGE.

As the result of paper salvage, and a smaller quantity of rags, and metal, the sum of £1,356.13.2. has been raised for the collection and sale of some 176 tons of paper, and over 4 tons of rags.

This substantial contribution is due to the co-operation of the public but mainly to the efforts of the department staff, and, of course, their bonus.

CESSPOOL EMPTYING.

This is mainly carried out by the Council's staff, but it has been necessary to engage a private firm to do parts of the work when the time lag of the service became too great.

A charge is made for the service at the following rates:-

Domestic Premises	15/- per load or part (800 gallons).
Business Premises	17/6 per hour, including travelling time.

Disposal is into sewers, sewage works and, when permission can be obtained and no offence afforded, upon agricultural land. There is increasing difficulty in finding places for this latter.

* Trade Refuse Charges :- per ton. 6d.

up to 5 cwt.....	3/- per load
" " 10 "	7/- " "
" " 15 "	10/- " "
" " 20 "	15/- " .. (12)
every additional ton	12/-

GENERAL COMMENT.

The need for Sewerage is probably the most urgent in the District. I feel that new housing development with cesspit drainage in concentrated areas is very undesirable, and must be kept to places with porous soil. The new schemes are being approved and a start being made and one can hope that in 10 years time modern sanitation, like piped water supply, will be general throughout the district.

CARAVAN AND CAMPING SITES.

		Permanent	Seasonal
(a)	No. of licences issued for individual moveable dwellings	49	Nil.
(b)	No. of camping sites for which licences have been issued.	21	1
(c)	No. allowed per acre 16.		
(d)	Estimated maximum number of campers resident during the year	365	2000

There are, actually, sites for 553 Trailer Caravans issued in the District, and for 41 'moveable dwelling', of which some may be caravans.

An effort has been made to have replaced the many aged and unsightly bus bodies, shacks and patched-up caravans on the sites. Some structures which might suit a holiday party have become used as permanent dwellings.

I cannot help but repeat my objection to the Caravan as a permanent dwelling, except for the few cases where the nature of employment of the resident is temporary, and I would like to take this opportunity of listing my reasons:-

- (1) They are apt to obscure the real housing needs in the District. Tenants are only rarely admitted to Housing Lists.
- (2) They are a reversion to the stand-pipe and bottom-of-the-garden sanitation.
- (3) They are quite unsuitable for a growing family, and at times of illness and have no facilities for personal privacy.
- (4) The tenants are isolated and take no part in communal activities, even to paying rates.
- (5) They are economically unsound, requiring a rapidly wasting outlay, constant upkeep resulting in a few years to complete loss of capital. Particularly in the case of the modern 'luxury' type, they represent funds which would much better be employed in the erection of permanent houses, as assets to the nation.
- (6) Control of conditions is fraught with difficulties.

SWIMMING POOLS AND BATHS.

There is but one in the District, that maintained by Ashton Court Club. It has a modern treatment plant, well maintained.

HOUSING.

Number of Permanent Dwellings in the District (excluding Camps)	7708
Total Number owned by the COUNCIL.	1396

Action taken during year:-

Formally:-	(1) No. of houses included in Clearance Areas still to be made.	4
Section 2, Housing Repairs & Rents Act, 1954.	(2) No. of houses in Clearance area patched for temporary use under Section 48, Housing Act, 1957.	Nil.
Section 25, Housing Act, 1936	(3) No. of houses demolished under Sect. 42 of Housing Act, 1957, (Clearance Areas).	Nil.
Section 11. Housing Act, 1936.	(4) No. of houses demolished under Sect. 17 of Housing Act, 1957 (unfits)	12
	(5) No. of temporary dwellings (huts etc) demolished.	43
Section 9, Housing Act, 1936.	(6) No. of Houses declared unfit under Section 9 of Housing Act, 1957.	Nil.
	(7) No. of houses closed as a result of an undertaking given by owners, or following Closing Orders.	12
	(8) No. of unfit houses occupied under licence.	1
	(9) Rent Act, 1957 (1st Schedule) Certificates of disrepair:- (a) Applications received (b) Certificates issued	3 Nil.

NEW HOUSING.Number of Houses erected during the year:-

For Slum Clearance	by Council	Backwell	7	
		Nailsea	43	
		Pill	62	112
	by Private Enterprise			Nil.
Other purposes	by Council	Backwell	1	
		Nailsea	9	
		Pill	32	42
	by Private Enterprise			203

Number of Houses in course of erection:-

For Slum Clearance	by Council	Nailsea	46	
		Pill	2	48
Other Purposes	by Council	Nailsea	9	
		Kenn	2	11
	by Private Enterprise			222

Number of dwellings gained by conversions:-

by Private Enterprise	6
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Number of dwellings lost by conversion of 2 or more into one:-

by Private Enterprise	7
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Number of Post-War Houses erected from April 1945 - December 1957:-

by Council	1027
by Private Enterprise.	805

HOUSING (Contd.)Housing Programme for 1958:-

For Slum Clearance	121
Other purposes (including old people)	34

Number of temporary housing units occupied (Huts etc.):-

Tyntesfield	137
Lulsgate	31

Number of houses found overcrowded 2Number of houses made fit during year 55Housing Required:-

(i) To replace houses scheduled for demolition	190
(ii) To abate overcrowding (e.g. living with in-laws).	50
(iii) For other purposes	158

Camps 200
estimated otherNumber of Applications for Council Houses at end
of year:- 630

Number of Council Houses sold during the year Nil.

Comment.

The rehousing of hutment dwellers is urgent, and the question of dealing with unfit houses, where there is no call for the Council to rehouse the tenant, must be deferred until houses are available. The time must come when permanent caravan dwellers must be considered.

Improvement Grants.

Number of Applications dealt with:-

During year	<u>Received</u> Appcns; Houses	<u>Approved</u> Appcns; Houses	<u>Rejected.</u> Appcns: Houses.
1957	44	37	7
31.7.49 - 31.12.56	153	122	23

Number of applications approved in respect of owner/occupiers during
the year 27

Average cost per dwelling approved during year £927.10.0.

Amount of Grant payable by Council, generally
in special cases 75%
100%

When it was necessary to fix Rents, the average of 22 cases was £118.

HOUSING PROGRAMME.

<u>Scheme</u>	<u>1957/58</u> <u>Under construction.</u>	<u>1958/59</u> <u>Slum Clearance</u>	<u>Other</u>	<u>Total.</u>
Cleeve	-	14	14	28
Lulsgate.	-	23	3	26
Pill Friendly Row.	8	-	-	-
Nailsea	55	46	9	55
Long Ashton	-	83	-	83
Kenn	2	-	-	-
North Weston	-	8	4	12
Totals	65	174	30	204

Schemes for the following have been deferred until more favourable financial conditions and awaiting land clearance or sewerage.

Pill (Underbanks), 30 houses.
 Nailsea - a further 60 houses.
 Portbury 18 houses.

DWELLING ERECTED BY PRIVATE ENTERPRISE.

<u>Parish.</u>	<u>1951-53</u>	<u>1954</u>	<u>1955</u>	<u>1956</u>	<u>1957</u>	<u>Under Construction.</u>
Abbots Leigh	12	10	8	2	5	9
Backwell	32	18	18	25	78	82
Barrow Gurney	-	-	1	1	-	1
Brockley	1	2	2	-	3	2
Clapton-in-Gordano	2	2	-	-	1	2
Cleeve	9	4	7	4	2	6
Dundry	2	2	2	4	2	3
Easton-in-Gordano	2	5	9	7	5	15
Flax Bourton	-	2	2	-	8	5
Kenn	-	1	-	-	-	1
Kingston Seymour	2	1	-	-	-	1
Long Ashton	23	16	16	14	15	25
Nailsea	6	7	16	20	20	22
North Weston	1	13	12	13	22	18
Portbury	1	2	1	-	-	2
Tickenham	8	3	7	7	9	5
Walton-in-Gordano	-	1	-	-	-	-
Weston-in-Gordano	-	-	1	-	1	-
Winford	5	4	4	4	-	-
Wraxall	7	19	9	3	19	14
Yatton	2	5	1	10	13	9
Totals	115	117	116	114	203	222

FOOD

MILK

(a)	Number of Registered Distributors	15
(b)	Number of Registered Diary Premises (other than Dairy Farms)	7
(c)	Number of Licensed Dealers of Designated Milk	17
(d)	Number of supplementary licences issued to distributors whose dairy is outside District	14

ICE CREAM.

Number of Premises registered for:-

(a)	Manufacture and retail	2
(b)	Manufacture only	Nil
(c)	Retail only	69

Number of Samples taken:-

Grade 1	6
Grade 2	3
Grade 3	Nil
Grade 4	Nil

All Hot Mix.

FOOD HYGIENE.

Food Hygiene Regulations, 1955.

No Statutory action was needed; compliance with Regulations being secured, where necessary, by informal action.

SLAUGHTER-HOUSES.

Five slaughter-houses are licensed in the District, but one is not being operated. There are no Bacon Factories or places where horses are slaughtered for human consumption.

MEAT INSPECTION.

All slaughtered meat is inspected. A Report on the amounts giving details is appended to this Report.

FOOD (Continued)MEAT INSPECTION.

Carcasses and Offal inspected and condemned in whole or in part during the year.

	<u>Cattle excluding Cows.</u>	<u>Cows</u>	<u>Calves</u>	<u>Sheep and Lambs</u>	<u>Pigs.</u>
Number killed	1100	148	456	3444	2789
Number inspected	1100	148	456	3444	2789
<u>All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci.</u>					
Whole Carcasses condemned	-	2	7	2	5
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned.	121	21	-	18	71
Percentage of number inspected affected.	11.0%	15.5%	1.5%	0.6%	2.0%

Tuberculosis only.

Whole carcase condemned	4	1	-	-	-
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned.	28	3	-	-	18
Percentage of number inspected affected with tuberculosis	2.9%	2.7%	-	-	0.6%

Cysticercosis.

No evidence was found of affection.

Weight of meat condemned (in lbs.)
for:-

(a) Tuberculosis	3004	624	-	-	144
(b) Other	1760	1717	308	152	740
Total (in lbs) condemned	4764	2341	308	152	884

YEARLY COMPARISON.

		<u>Cattle and Cows</u>	<u>Calves</u>	<u>Sheep</u>	<u>Pigs.</u>
Killed and Inspected	1955	1028	356	3590	3438
	1956	932	515	3332	2747
	1957	1248	456	3444	2789
Meat condemned (T.B.)	1955	6460	-	-	340
(in lbs)	1956	2070	65	-	464
	1957	3624	-	-	144
Total weight condemned	1955	10800	300	954	1068
(in lbs)	1956	5972	553	942	1802
	1957	7105	308	152	884

FOOD (Continued).

Number of Premises registered under Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955, where food is prepared (Ice Cream, Manufactured Meat Products etc.)

83 Premises.

KNACKERS YARDS.

There is none in the District.

FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 & 1948.

Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health in respect of the Year 1957.

- (1) Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Officers).

Premises.	Number on Register	Inspections	Written Notices	Prosecutions
(i) Factories in which Sects. 1,2,3,4 & 6 are to be enforced by L.A.	6	3	-	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Sect. 7 is enforced by L.A.	65	49	-	-
(iii) Other premises in which Sect. 7 is enforced by L.A. (excluding out-workers premises)	6	2	-	-
TOTAL	77	54	-	-

- (2) Cases in which defects were found

Particulars	Number of Cases			Prosecutions
	Found Remedied	Referred To H.M.Inspectr.	By H.M.Insp.	
Want of Cleanliness.	-	-	-	-
Overcrowding	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation	-	-	-	-
Poor drainage floors	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences	-	-	-	-
(a) Insufficient	-	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	-	-	-	-
(c) Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-
Other offences	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	-	-	-	-

Part VIII of the Act.

OUTWORK. (Sections 110 & 111).

As far as we know there were no outworkers in the District during the year.

REVIEW OF THE YEAR.

From the Medical viewpoint, the outstanding fact was the Poliomyelitis epidemic, which amounted to 21 cases. This really consisted of four very limited outbreaks and we hope our efforts at education of all contacts were, at least in part, responsible for the lack of later spread.

Reviewing the work accomplished by the Council through the year, I feel they should have reason for satisfaction and, although the details are contained in the body of the Report, the following are worthy of summary.

Piped water is almost the rule in the District.

All the old Camps have been evacuated, (but the sites remain a 'blot on the landscape'). 43 huts.

The evacuation of Tyntesfield is started.

The Council has erected - and tenanted - 154 new houses and is now the owner, manager and landlord of 1400 houses; a considerable estate. Slum Clearance steadily proceeds. The worst problem, in Pill, is well on its way to solution, though the redevelopment of the cleared areas is likely to cause anxiety to the residents.

Other Unfit Houses are steadily being reconditioned; during the year 55. Our official action in representation and the policy of awarding grants is largely responsible.

Major relief of Pill's flooding has been accomplished by the joint efforts of authorities.

The reconditioning of the pre-war Council houses up to modern standards is being tackled.

There are signs of much other development in the District. Industry at Ashton Gate, housing in Backwell, a Grammar School at Nailsca.

At last the major need of the District is being allowed to be tackled, SEWERAGE. A start has been made on much needed service of the villages, a duty which it will take many years to achieve.

A glance through the Minutes of the year's work by the Public Health and Housing Committee make one acutely aware of the amount of work all this achievement means to the members of your Staff, often greatly increased by the need for consideration, and reconsideration, by delays of negotiation and the protracted procedures of legal processes and official enquiry.

Your Public Health Staff is kept well employed, dealing with complaints, meat inspection, the running of the Cleansing Department, sending samples of this and that for examination, etc. House inspection with detailed lists of defects, Rent Act complaints, the Food and Drugs Acts all contribute to their tasks. In short I feel the Public, and, as the result, the Council and myself are well served by these officers.

It only remains to thank all, Councillors and Staff, for their help and co-operation throughout the year.



Medical Officer of Health.

22nd May, 1958.